

**JENNINGS COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING  
DECEMBER 28, 2017 6:30 P.M.**

All members present

The meeting opened with Matt Sporleder leading the pledge to the flag.

Stephanie Applegate, President of the 4-H Livestock came before the Commissioners concerned about the electrical problems in the cattle barn. In July the Indiana State Fire Marshall visited the fairgrounds and the building did not meet code in the FFA Building and the Beef Barn and other agricultural buildings. Ms. Applegate presented to the Commissioners, three quotes on costs for bringing the fairgrounds up to code. Biehle Electric, Bode Electric and Craig Lee had given the Committee quotes.

Matt Sporleder asked Auditor Vance if these violations had not already been corrected by Greg Wilds County Maintenance person and her response was yes and the County had received an updated certificate showing the no violations. Mr. Sporleder asked the Auditor to go and bring that certificate to the meeting. Copies were made of the final certificate and given to parties interested. Mr. Sporleder asked the committee to check again in the buildings and see if their quotes need to be modified or added to and return with the results to the next Commissioner meeting.

Bob Willhite made a motion to table this matter for further review at the next meeting. Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Next on the agenda were Alex Johnson and Ellen Robinson concerning a culvert put on Mr. Johnson's property without notice or request. Ms. Robinson stated they received a notice from Ellie Bright, County Attorney, concerning a bill with Stearns Supply for \$723.66 and stated if not paid the property would be place on the tax sale. Ms. Robinson stated that the last anyone spoke to them about the culvert was last April and they told that person then that they did not see a need for a new culvert. Ms. Robinson stated then one morning she could not get out of the driveway because they were putting this culvert in and she couldn't leave for work. Mr. Johnson stated that he was told the culvert would be put in free of charge. Matt Sporleder said yes, that was the plan but the culvert that was to be used was one from his farm and it turned out to be rotten on the bottom so was unusable. Mr. Sporleder asked if Mr. Johnson and Ms. Robinson could do a monthly payment plan and the response was non committal. Mr. Sporleder stated he would research the bill and try to work something out.

Next were the appointments for 2018 by the Commissioners.

Bob Willhite made a motion to appoint Dave Lane to the APC Board; Matt Sporleder seconded the motion and Dave Lane by accepting the position made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Dave Lane made a motion to appoint Bob Willhite to the SIRPC Board; Matt Sporleder seconded the motion and Bob Willhite by accepting the position made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Next was the County TIF Board ordinance amending the original 2006 ordinance giving the County Council two appointments to the board.

Bob Willhite made a motion to waive the first reading of the County TIF ordinance; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Bob Willhite made a motion to adopt the County TIF amended ordinance as written; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Bob Willhite made a motion to appoint Ashley McCreary, Brad Armand and Dave Kopitzke to the County TIF Board for 2018. Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Next was the ordinance to vacate a road in Campbell township; Matt Sporleder asked the audience if anyone attending had an objection to the ordinance to vacate.

With no objections noted: Bob Willhite made a motion to waive the first reading of an Ordinance to vacate certain roadway in the city of Butlerville, Campbell Township, Jennings County, Indiana; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Bob Willhite made a motion to adopt the Ordinance to vacate certain roadway in the city of Butlerville, Campbell Township, Jennings County, Indiana; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous.

Next the Auditor said she had received a call about the Assessor's Reassessment Appeal Board having only two members and if there shouldn't be three. Auditor Vance stated she contacted Linda Kovacich, Assessor and asked her about this and she stated that there have only been two on the board because of needing a level 2 or equivalent to serve and she had 2 appraisers on the board for that reason. Kim Wetzel and she both have the level 2 that would be able to break a tie vote if needed. Mrs. Kovacich went on to say that most appeals are settled in informal hearings in her office. If someone has a level 2 and wants to serve on the board she has no problem with that.

Randy Shepherd was in attendance and expressed his desire to serve on the board but had concerns that neither of the 2 members now serving held a level 2 assessment certificate. Mr. Shepherd was concerned that Rick Martin being a real estate broker might have a conflict of interest. Cheryl Miller is the other member and Mr. Shepherd stated that the last time he checked on line neither Mrs. Miller nor Mr. Martin had an assessment level 2.



Bob Willhite made a motion to table the appointment for the Reassessment Appeals Board until next meeting. Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Bob Willhite made a motion to re appoint the remaining list of current holders to their respective committees for 2018 with any changes needed to be done at a later date; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder making it unanimous. Motion passed.

Next Matt Sporleder brought up the new jail project and finding property on which to build. Dan Zuerner with Garmong Construction Services and Construction Manager of the jail project has sent the list of properties that were under consideration. The Committee is down to one location and that is the Bill Harmon property with the steel building already there. Mr. Harmon has told Mr. Zuerner and Mr. Sporleder that he would lower the price from \$1.2 million down to \$1 million even. The property site has ten acres and Mr. Sporleder believes it will work and an office area can be built in front of the steel structure. Mr. Sporleder asked permission to pursue this purchase from the two Commissioners. Mr. Sporleder stated that a lot of things would still have to be approved such as an appraisal and any permits needed for the project and so on.

Bob Willhite made a motion to allow Matt Sporleder to pursue the purchase of the Bill Harmon property for \$1 million dollars; contingent on the appraisal and no raising of the taxes for the county. Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

The Health Department submitted two appointments to the Commissioners; Dr. Linda Hefner and Merrill Salyers.

Bob Willhite made a motion to appoint Dr. Linda Hefner and Merrill Salyers to the Jennings County Board of Health for 2018. Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

Bob Willhite made a motion to approve prior minutes for November 16<sup>th</sup> and December 14<sup>th</sup>; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous. Motion passed.

With no further business, Bob Willhite made a motion to adjourn; Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt Sporleder made it unanimous.

*2018*  
~~COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENTS FOR 2017~~

Alcohol Beverage Board Commission	Robert Curry Jr.	1 year term
Area Plan Board	Mark Holwager	1 year term
	Chad Ebinger	1 year term
	David Lane	1 year term
Area Plan Central Services Committee	Bill Robbins	1 year term
Area Plan Essential Services for Technical Review	Jim Reeves	1 year term
Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA)	Ray Hughes	1 year term
Animal Control Board	Julie Huelson	1 year term
County Attorney	Ellie Bright	1 year term
EMA	Jerry Shepherd	1 year term
Custodian	Bonnie Robinson	1 year term
EMA Advisory Council	Matt Sporleder	1 year term
911 Board	Dave Turner	1 year term
Board of Finances	Matt Sporleder	1-year term
Board of Health	Craig Kipper	1 year term
Board of Health	Curt Scheifinger	1 year term
Highway Foreman District #1	Leonard Ross	1 year term
Highway Foreman District #2	Tony Gudgel	1 year term
Highway Foreman District #3	Brian Ponsler	1 year term

Landfill Steering Committee

Kay Vance 1 year term

~~Bob Willhite~~ 1 year term

Josh Yeager 1 year term

Ralph Mantief 1 year term

Bob Steiner 1 year term

~~Fred Robinson~~ 1 year term

Public Defenders Board

Jim Mick 1 year term

Rescue 20 Board of Appeals

Sherri Bowling 1 year term

Ted Westerman 1 year term

Jerry Shepherd 1 year term

Rescue 20 Director

Dave Gerth 1 year term

Solid Waste District

Matt Sporleder 1 year term

SIRPC

*Bob Willhite*  
~~David Lane~~ 1 year term

Gary Driver 1 year term

Richard Adrian 1 year term

John Post 1 year term

Tourism Board

Sue Fenton 1 year term

~~Joanna Vance~~ 1 year term

*Susie Hall*

Veteran's Service Officer

~~Mike Eastman~~ 1 year term

*Nolan Stanley*

Workforce Development Board

Mike Ochs 1 year term

Historical Hoosier Hills Appointment

Mike Ochs 1 year term

Tri County Water Board

John Post 1 year term

JNRU Board

Brian Rooney 1 year term

Cadie Mathis 1 year term

Library Board

Rita Hurley 1 year term

Recycle Center

John Post 1 year term

Bill Dorsett 1 year term

Attest:



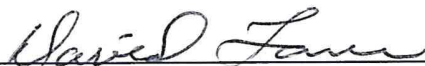
Kay Sue Vance, Auditor



Matt Sporleder, President



Robert Willhite



David Lane